

A NOTABLE TILT.

Col. Ingersoll was thrown accidentally into the society of Henry Ward Beecher. There were four or five gentlemen present, all of whom were prominent in the world of brains.

A variety of topics was discussed with decided brilliancy, but no allusion made to religion.

The distinguished infidel was of course, too polite to introduce the subject himself, but one of the party, finally desiring to see a tilt between Bob and Beecher, made a playful remark about Col. Ingersoll's idiosyncrasy as he termed it.

The gentleman who introduced the topic with the hope that Mr. Beecher would answer Col. Ingersoll at last remarked:

"Mr. Beecher, have you nothing to say on this question?"

The old man slowly lifted himself from his attitude and replied: "Nothing—in fact, if you will excuse me for changing the conversation, I will say that while you gentlemen were talking, my mind was bent on a most deplorable spectacle which I witnessed today?"

"What was it?" at once inquired Col. Ingersoll, who, notwithstanding his peculiar views of the hereafter, is noted for his kindness of heart.

"Why," said Mr. Beecher, I was walking down town today, I saw a poor, lame man with crutches slowly and carefully picking his way through a cesspool of mud, in the endeavor to cross the street. He had just reached the middle of the filth, when a big, burly ruffian, himself all bespattered rushed up to him, and jerking the crutches from under the unfortunate man, left him sprawling and helpless in the pool of liquid dirt which almost engulfed him."

"What a brute he was," said Col. Ingersoll.

"What a brute he was," they all echoed.

"Yes," said the old man, rising from his chair and brushing back his long white hair, while his eyes glittered with their old timefire, as he bent them on Col. Ingersoll, and you are that man. The human soul is lame; but Christianity gives it the crutches to enable it to pass across the pathway of life. It is your teachings that knock these crutches from under it, and leaves it a helpless and rudderless wreck in the slough of despond. If robbing the human soul of its only support on this earth—religion—by your profession, why, ply it to your hearts content. It requires an architect to erect a building; any incendiary may reduce it to ashes."

The old man sat down, and silence brooded over the scene. Col. Ingersoll found that he had a master in his own power of illustration, and said nothing. The company took their hats and departed.—St. Louis Critic.

A DUCHESS' CLOTHES.

A well known English firm has just completed three elegant walking and traveling costumes for H. R. H., the Duchess of Connaught, specially designed for her. The first is of tweed in fine texture, the shades being cream checked with chocolate, and these again cross barred with lines of bright green.

The bodice forms a loose jacket with red collar and revers fastened by one button at the bust, worn over a waistcoat of dark green cloth, made quite detached, and having a high collar to finish it neatly at the neck.

The skirt is simply draped in long, loose folds reaching to the feet, both back and front, and has a box plaited panel on the left side. The small buttons used on the bodice are of green carved bone, and of quaint design.

The second gown is of a charming cloth of a soft, blue-gray tint, mixed with red, and forming dice checks. The bodice is cut with graduated revers reaching to the waist, and showing a vest of fine cream cloth, plaited to simulate the linen front of a gentleman's shirt and buttoned by three gold studs. The high collar is of the same cloth, and a narrow white silk tie, with small bow, is to be worn with this in place of a brooch. The cuffs are also of the

white cloth, and, together with the rest, are made removable, that other collars may be worn at pleasure. The front of the skirt has a wide plain panel, over which hangs a long full apron drapery. The back is box plaited, the upper drapery is folded cornerwise and arranged a little bouffante under the round coat basque. The third gown is of navy blue serge, interwoven with narrow stripes of red. This like the bodice of the second gown, is cut with revers, but of different shape, and they are faced with navy silk serge. Four ebony buttons, engraved with R. Y. S., are placed on either side of the waist, and similar ones in smaller size are used to button the vest, which is of bright red cloth. The skirt is box plaited, under a full long drapery both back and front, raised a little on either hip, and giving almost the appearance of a skirt worn over a plaited petticoat.

THE DIVISION OF TIME.

The natural divisions of time are the year and the day. The week is arbitrary, being probably derived from considerations first suggested by the first chapter of Genesis. The month, though ordinarily intended to be the time from one new moon to the next, has, of necessity, departed from this idea, in order to make an even number in the year. The decade and the century are purely artificial, deduced from our system of numbering. But the day and the year, the one derived from the reappearance of light and darkness, the other measuring the round of the seasons, are universally adopted units of time, suggesting themselves alike to cultured and savage, and which we can not think will ever be superseded.

The year is the time of the revolution of the earth around the sun. Its measure is not easily obtained by the reappearance of the sun at the same altitude in the sky. Everyone knows that it is higher in Summer than in Winter. If the circle of the earth's equator were extended right out from the centre of the earth into the sky, it would cut out a circle there which is called the celestial equator. Now the sun crosses this line in the Spring northward, arriving at its greatest altitude in the middle of summer; thence it descends, crossing the line southward in the Fall, and reaching its lowest point in midwinter.

The ancients by measuring the length of the shadow cast by a vertical stick on diaphanous days of the year. In 450 B. C. Democritus asserted the year to be 365 1/4 days long, which is within about eleven minutes of the truth. Another ingenious device for the same purpose was that of the Egyptian as astronomers, who sent up a wheel parallel to the plane of the equator. When the sun was in this plane, the shadow of the sunward side of the wheel would be exactly intercepted by the other, and the interval between two such occurrences would measure the year. Owing to the fact that the sun does not cross the celestial equator in the same place each year, this year which measures the seasons is a few minutes shorter than the exact time of the earth's motion around the sun.—Popular Science Monthly.

Philadelphia has eight women practicing medicine who make \$20,000 each annually and twenty-two who make \$5,000.

It is said that of the 657 members elected to the New English Parliament 337 are openly in favor of woman suffrage.

The first female clerk employed by the government was Miss Jennie Douglass, appointed to the Treasury Department by Spinner in 1862.

Queen Margherita, of Italy, has a woman physician, Signora Margherita Fatme, who was one of the first Italian women to study medicine.

Connecticut has female notaries public. Miss Alaine Rowland, who has just been sworn in, is the youngest in the State. She has just passed her twenty-first year.

A Parisian fancy in white dresses is to make them up of alternate strips of muslin and embroidery or lace. Lace also alternates with silk or satin, or two designs in lace form alternate stripes. With these dresses bonnet and parasol must be in the same style, and gloves of white suede kid are worn.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

There is not much difference between careless extravagance and a hole in the pocket.

The guilt of one sin is a greater misery than the burden of a thousand crosses.

You have not fulfilled every duty unless you have fulfilled that of being pleasant.

Be accurate. Want of accuracy entails not only error, but also annoyance and loss.

'Not for ourselves but for others,' is the grand law inscribed on every part of creation.

He who is the most slow in making a promise, is the most faithful in the performance of it.

Success has a great tendency to conceal and throw a veil over the evil deeds of men.

Tranquil pleasures last the longest. We are not fitted to bear long the burden of great joys.

It is to be feared that they who marry where they do not love, will love where they do not marry.

'Heaven Revealed' is the title of a work recently issued. Another good book, most likely.

Never enter a room filled with people without a slight bow to the general company when first entering.

In studying character do not be blind to the shortcomings of a warm friend or the virtues of a bitter enemy.

A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.

Never fail to answer an invitation either personally or by letter, within a week after the invitation is received.

Never fail to tell the truth. If truthful, you get your reward. You will get your punishment if you deceive.

Failure, after long perseverance, is much grander than never having a striving good enough to be called a failure.

It is better for the general health of a community to have one good-natured man in a neighborhood than four doctors?

The parent who tells a child that he loves it except when he is about to give it a good licking makes a terrible mistake.

Never cross the leg or put one foot over the other in a street car, or places where it will trouble others when passing by.

The manner of a vulgar man has freedom without ease, and the manner of the gentleman has ease without freedom.

Evils in the journey of life are like the hills which alarm travelers upon their road; they both appear great at a distance, but when we approach them we find that they are far less insurmountable than we had conceived them.

ESSENCE OF BUSINESS LAW.

It is a fraud to conceal a fraud. Ignorance of the law excuses no one. Notes bear interest only when so stated.

The law compels no one to do impossibilities. Signatures made with a pencil are good in law.

A receipt for money is not always conclusive. Principals are responsible for the acts of their agents.

No consideration is sufficient in law if it be illegal in its nature. The payee should be distinctly named in the note unless it is payable to bearer.

A bill may be written upon any paper or substitute for it, with either ink or pencil. A note obtained by fraud or from a person in a state of intoxication cannot be collected.

An indorsee has the right of action against all whose names were on the bill when he received it. Notice of protest may be sent either to the place of business or residence of the party notified.

The time of payment of a note must not depend upon a contingency. The promise must be absolute. A note made by a minor is void; a contract made with a minor is void; a contract with a lunatic is void.

If the drawer of a check or draft has changed his residence the holders must use all reasonable diligence to find him. An agreement without consideration is void; a note made on Sunday is void; contracts made on Sunday can not be enforced.

Each individual in a partnership is responsible for the whole amount of debts of the firm, except in case of special partnership.

If the letter containing the protest of non-payment be put in the post-office, any miscarriage does not affect the party giving notice.

A note endorsed in blank—the name of the endorser only written—is transferable by delivery, the same as if made payable to bearer.

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